

REMARKS

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The examiner rejected claims 26-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greco (US 5,568,540) in view of Kanevsky (US 6,219,407). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Although the examiner concedes that Greco does not teach converting a portion of a voice message to text (as recited in claim 26) the examiner asserts that Greco suggests the limitation because Greco teaches displaying subjects of voice messages and *must, therefore have some form of speech recognition*. *Id.*, page 3 (emphasis added). The examiner's assertion is respectfully traversed.

Referring to Figure 2 of Greco, a column for a subject reference is located at the far right of the figure. Notably, a subject reference is *only* indicated for three of the eight messages shown. This is because the three messages were sent from an extension (*i.e.*, on the system) with similar equipment. Column 4, lines 63-65. For example, when a message originates from another extension within the system, the name of the extension owner and the extension number are displayed. *See* Figure 2, at 188; column 4, lines 44-67.

Greco does not expressly state how the subject reference is obtained. But, a user of Greco's system can send a message to another user having a mailbox on the system by entering the name of user as shown in Figure 3. When the sending user selects the "Connect" button 197, the user's (sender) telephone is connected to the voicemail system to "record the voicemail message *to go with the screen entered text*." Column 5, lines 8-15 (emphasis added). As shown in Figure 3, there is a field for a subject, which the user types in; hence, the subject is "screen entered text that goes with" the recorded voicemail. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Greco in no way discloses that the subject of a voice message *must* come from some sort of speech recognition. Clearly, an alternative is shown in Figures 2 and 3. For at least this reason, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established.

Kanevsky fails to cure the deficiency of Greco. For example, as shown in Figure 2 of Kanevsky, the subject matter of a message is not displayed at all. *See* column 7, lines 11-22. In fact, to have any idea of what the message is about in Kanevsky, the user must click on the READ MESSAGE field to obtain the *complete* message. *Id.* Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion in Kanevsky of taking a portion of a voice message and converting that into text so as to obtain an indication of what the message is about. Moreover, as previously explained, Kanevsky fails to disclose that a message, once displayed, is displayed in connection with the identifying information. That is, the message could replace the screen shown in Figure 2.

In sum, neither Greco nor Kanevsky, alone or in combination, teach or suggest using a portion of a voice message to indicate information about the subject matter of the voice message. For at least these reasons, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established for any of the rejected claims.

Under a similar analysis, new claims 39-46 are also believed to be patentable over the combination of Greco and Kanevsky.

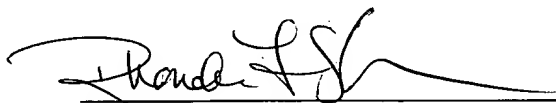
CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. The examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested.

The commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0154US).

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhonda L. Sheldon", is written over a horizontal line.

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